

Serial No.: 09/973,463
Atty. Docket No. 011350

REMARKS

The applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **September 16, 2003**.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR §1.83(a) as not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the figures fail to show that the projections are square. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion figure 4 shows projections (5) as measuring one eighth of an inch by one eighth of an inch. Therefore, figure 4 does show that projections (5) are square. Therefore, the Examiner's grounds of objection regarding the figures is respectfully traversed.

Objection to the Specification

The specification is objected to under 37 CFR §1.5(d) because the projections being square have not been described in the specification.

The specification does not describe the shape of the projections (5). However, as previously indicated, figure 4 shows projections (5) as being square since they measure one eighth of an inch by one eighth of an inch in that figure. Therefore, the Examiner's grounds of objection regarding the specification is respectfully traversed.

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Rejection under 35 USC §112

Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Specifically, the Examiner asserts that projections (5) are not described in the specification and drawings as being square. As previously discussed figure 4 shows projections (5) as measuring one eighth of an inch by one eighth of an inch. Therefore, figure 4 does show that projections (5) are square. Therefore, the Examiner's grounds of rejection is traversed since support for the claimed element is found in figure 4 of the present application.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Okabe in view of Applicant's admitted prior art.

Okabe describes an electrical connector having a number of electrical wire housings (31). Each electrical wire housing (31) has a pair of umbrella-like resilient pieces (41) that hold a wire (3) in place.

The admitted prior art discloses in Figure 6 of the present application a straight rectangular projection (70) used to hold a wire in place.

The present invention is an electrical connector and terminal in which projections (5) are utilized to hold a wire (40) in a connector housing (1). The projections (5) are flexible and enable the insertion of the wire (40) with minimal force.

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The Examiner is apparently not giving the claim element that indicates that projections (5) are square any patentable weight. As previously discussed, figure 4 does show that projections (5) are square. Therefore, there is support for the claimed feature in the originally filed drawings. Therefore, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the prior art relied upon by reciting,

“An electrical connector comprising; a connector housing including a terminal receiving section, wherein the connector housing is provided on both side walls of a rear portion of the terminal receiving section with a pair of straight square projections located at a top open side of the connector housing, projecting inwardly directly opposite to each other from the terminal receiving section, for holding an electric wire; and a terminal having an electrical contact portion at one end thereof for connecting to a mating terminal and an electric wire joint portion at the other end for joining to an electric wire, wherein the terminal receiving section has an extra room for allowing said electrical contact portion to move, wherein the electrical contact portion and the electric wire joint portion are connected by means of a flexible connecting part.” (Emphasis Added)

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Okabe in view of Applicant's admitted prior art is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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